

PROCIB-D-13
6 May 1959

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD
COMMITTEE ON PROCUREMENT OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS
FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

I. AUTHORITY

The Intelligence Advisory Committee (IAC) approved DCID 2/5 in May 1958, establishing the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications. The National Security Council dissolved the IAC on 15 September 1958 and established the United States Intelligence Board. IAC committee structure was approved for USIB. This report reflects the major activities of the Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications (since its inception.)
for the fiscal year 1959-1960.

II. MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

a. Evaluation Studies. The publications procurement activities of field collectors in the Far East have been evaluated and a coordinated paper distributed, commenting on the effectiveness and appreciation for such collection. Similar papers on Latin America, the Scandinavian countries and Africa are in preparation.

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b. Field Trips.

procurement programs. Mr. Leo M. Goodman, Chief, Division of Intelligence Collection and Distribution, Department of State, visited 17 posts in the Far and Middle East for the same purpose. Mr. Jennings Wood, Chief, Exchange and Gift Division, Library of Congress, spent over 4 months in India to expand the official exchange of publications program between India and the United States. He also arranged for the purchase of national and state government publications using Indian wheat loan funds (P.L. 48). The publications will be deposited in the University of California Library, the Midwest Inter-Library Center, and the University of Pennsylvania Library.

c. Expansion of Membership. The three national libraries of the U.S.: Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine and the Department of Agriculture Library were invited to participate in PROCIB as full members. Membership now includes representatives from the USIB agencies, Department of Agriculture, Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine, National Science Foundation and USIA.

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PROCIB-D-13-REVISED
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c. Participation of Non-USIB Departments and Agencies. The three national libraries of the U.S.: Library of Congress, National Library of Medicine, and the Department of Agriculture Library, as well as the National Science Foundation and USIA were invited to participate in PROCIB discussions.

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d. Increased Reporting of Foreign Publications Receipts. In October 1958, a letter was sent to the various U.S. Government agencies known to receive foreign publications, urging them to report their foreign receipts through such established media as the Bibliography of Agriculture, Current List of Medical Literature, or the two Library of Congress publications: Monthly Index of Russian Accessions, and the East European Accessions Index. Along these lines, CIA pulled together information on the receipt of USSR serial publications in the USIB community, and is planning to publish a consolidated listing to supplement the Library of Congress publication: Serial Publications of the Soviet Union 1939-1957.



III. MAJOR PROBLEMS

The past year brought to focus several areas of concern to PROCIB in its efforts to improve the program for the procurement of foreign publications. A selection of these continuing programs is given below:

a. Use of Foreign Currencies Available Under Public Law 480. The 85th Congress amended Public Law 480 to permit the use of available foreign currencies for programs involving the procurement, processing, translation, etc. of foreign publications. The two programs of interest to PROCIB are: (Section 104k, P.L. 85-931) primarily concerned with the translation and utilization of foreign scientific and technical publications, is under the direction of the National Science Foundation; the other (Section 104n, P.L. 85-931) for the evaluation, acquisition and distribution of foreign publications in all fields, is under the direction of the Librarian of Congress. PROCIB is active in a consultative and coordinating capacity to both the Library of Congress and National Science Foundation.

b. Library of Congress Indexes Announcing Availability of Foreign Publications. The Library of Congress has been publishing for years the Monthly Index of Russian Accessions and the East European Accessions Index,

These two projects, together with a proposed Monthly Index of Chinese Accessions under consideration, are going to cost close to \$1,000,000 in Fiscal Year 1960.

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c. Publications Exchanges with Countries with whom the U.S. has no Diplomatic Relations. In some cases, an exchange of publications with foreign libraries or research institutions is the only way to secure publications of interest. This is particularly true in countries with which the U.S. has no diplomatic relations, such as Communist China, East Germany, North Korea, North Viet Nam, Bulgaria and the Mongolian Peoples' Republic. PROCIB requested from the Department of State a statement of policy as guidance in the exchange programs with these countries. The Department of State replied that since diplomatic relations with Bulgaria have now been resumed, it has no objections to the commencement of exchanges with that country. It is, however, the general policy of the Department to withhold formal approval for negotiations of this nature for the other countries involved. The Department offered to discuss the possibility of other means by which at least a significant portion of these publications may be procured. PROCIB will study the problem further.

IV. MAJOR OBJECTIVES

The Committee will continue to meet with field collectors, both in the field and on their home leave. The Committee will review and evaluate the various procurement programs and will make recommendations to ensure that maximum utilization is made of the various media for publications procurement by the U.S. Government. The Committee will act in an advisory capacity to academic institutions requesting procurement information that can be made available. This Committee will coordinate activities with those of the USIB Committees on Documentation and Exploitation respectively.

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Chairman, Committee on Procurement
of
Foreign Publications

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